## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Sonya Wright

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Applicants Michael R. Hale et al. :

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Hon. Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 AND 1.97(b)

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants, through their representatives, make of record the following documents:

#### United States Patents

Mohrs et al. Descamps et al. Ryono et al. Martin et al. Kempf et al. Talley et al. Tung et al. Vazquez et al. Vazquez et al.	3,743,722 4,330,542 4,629,724 5,196,438 5,354,866 5,622,949 5,723,490 5,744,481 5,843,946	issued July 3, 1973 issued May 18, 1982 issued December 16, 1986 issued March 23, 1993 issued October 11, 1994 issued April 22, 1997 issued March 3, 1998 issued April 28, 1998
vazquez et al.	5,843,946	issued December 1, 1998

#### European Patent Applications

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published January 7, 1981

0	181	071	published March 14, 1986
0	264	795	published April 27, 1988
0	346	847	published December 20, 1989
0	364	804	published April 25, 1990
0	434	365	published June 26, 1991
0	468	641	published January 29, 1992
0	486	948	published May 27, 1992
0	541	168	published May 12, 1993
0	594	540	published April 27, 1994

# German Patent Application

DE 3542567 published June 5, 1986

## Great Britain Patent Application

2,167,759 published June 4, 1986 2,200,115 published July 27, 1988

### PCT International Patent Applications

WO WO WO WO WO	90/07329 91/00725 91/18866 92/08688 92/08698 92/08699 92/08700 92/08701	published July 12, 1990 published January 24, 1991 published December 12, 1991 published May 29, 1992 published May 29, 1992
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WO	93/23368	published November 25, 1993
WO	93/23388	published November 25, 1993
WO	93/23379	published November 25, 1993
WO	94/04491	published March 3, 1994
WO	94/04492	published March 3, 1994
WO	94/04493	published March 3, 1994
WO	94/05639	published March 17, 1994
WO	94/10134	published May 11, 1994
WO	94/10136	published May 11, 1994
WO	94/18192	published August 18, 1994
WO	94/19322	published September 1, 1994
WO	95/06030	published March 2, 1995
WO	95/07269	published March 16, 1995
	95/09843	published April 13, 1995
	95/14016	published May 26, 1995
	95/32185	published November 30, 1995

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JΡ	59046252	published	March	15.	1984
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None of the above-cited documents, made of record by applicants herein, renders unpatentable, either alone or in any combination thereof, the pending claims of this application.

Applicants request that this Statement and these documents be made of record in this application.

Applicants respectfully request that the documents listed above be (1) fully considered by the Examiner during the course of examination of this application and (2) printed on any patent issuing from this application. Applicants also request that the Examiner forward the enclosed

duplicate copy of Form PTO-1449, duly acknowledged and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next Communication.

This Statement is submitted more than three months from the application filing date but before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), submission of this Statement requires no fee. However, if for any reason a fee is due, the Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees required in connection with this Statement to Deposit Account No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this Statement is transmitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

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